

## UUFD Congregational Meeting Minutes

**November 9, 2014**

- Called to order at 11 a.m.
- 37 members present: We have a quorum
- Agenda approved
- Minutes from May 2014 meeting approved

### Minister's Report:

Rev. Linda shared a discussion of the “foundations” of our church home. She introduced new staff members and reminded us that how we treat and value staff members influences the future of UUFD.

She also shared a number of ongoing projects she has been working on:

- Board retreat, staff training, and other leadership
- Healthy sexuality training
- The UUFD Limited Access agreement
- Code of ethics for volunteers
- Updates to our Safe Congregation policy

Future work that she plans to focus on includes anti-racism and women's sexuality:

- Invited Kimberly Hart to UUFD
- Michelle Alexander (“The New Jim Crow”) is likely to be the keynote speaker for Women Spirit 2017 Conference. Rev Linda considering: Can UUFD host Women Spirit?

Rev Linda also:

- Introduced the 8 new members who have joined UUFD in 2014. This makes a total of 87 members
- Gave a summary of the discretionary fund: recent additions and the total amount
- Shared information about “Time and Talent” sessions with the minister, which are very valuable and will be made available to all.

### Faith In Action Project: Presentation by Social Justice

The social justice ministry proposed a change to the special collection procedures: Now each special collection recipient will be highlighted for a full month. On the first Sunday, all cash and any checks designated to the recipient will be part of the special collection (as usual). In addition, now 10% of the cash for the remainder of the month (as well as specially designated checks) will also go to the special collection recipient.

- This was presented with no official vote, but members asked to voice their support for the measure, and 24 were in favor, none opposed.

#### Nominating Committee: Vote on Committee Members

Sue Willis, as Past President, is organizing the nominating committee. Three names were submitted: Clark Neher, Donna Veeneman, and Jeff Kowalski.

- This slate of nominees was moved, seconded, and approved with no discussion.

#### Congregational Support and Development Presentation

Sharon Blake shared with us many of the duties CS and D fulfills throughout the year. They:

- Organize coffee hour and bake/provide food
- Welcome visitors
- Throw parties
- Give many rides
- Make phone calls and send cards
- Give comfort
- Contact all visitors who fill out a visitor form
- Train new greeters
- Clean the kitchen
- And more!

#### Stewardship Ministry Team Presentation

Carey Boehmer shared some of the recent work the Stewardship Ministry has accomplished, including work on the kitchen. We now have 4 sinks with running water, new paint and floors, and more headroom due to venting that has been removed.

#### Treasurer's Report

UUFD Treasurer Beau Anderson was ill, so Kathy Clark presented his report.

- The report went from June 2014 through beginning of Nov 2014. (43% through the year)
- UUFD does not now pay its fair share to the UUA or MidAmerica region. Kathy emphasized that it is problematic to pay only half.
- She reviewed funds set aside for specific purposes: memorial contributions and grants, choir fund, and NPR fund.
- She asked whether pledges have gone up, down, or stayed the same.
- Dave Becker recommended that finances be reported more regularly. The board plans to share the budget monthly in the Pathfinder.

- There was also a question about how direct deposit could be set up for those who wish to pledge that way. Answer: You can set it up through your own bank. We will create an info sheet for the next Pathfinder.
- Members/friends can also make gifts of stock to the church through the UUA.

### Board of Trustees Update

Tom Stamatakos, Board President, updated the congregation on recent board decisions:

- The copier was returned and the contract ended to save money.
- The safe congregation policy was updated in October 2014
- Board retreat: At the retreat, the board decided to swap some of the duties of the Past President and the President Elect, so that the Past President will now be in charged of the annual budget campaign.
- The board is discussing possible upcoming fundraising events: family dinners, gift cards, Cornfest
- The board plans to check in regularly with each ministry team for updates and to see if the ministry needs any help.
- The board's goal: To create a culture of generosity at UUFD
- Tom emphasized the importance of new hires for childcare and religious education: When kids are bored or lonely in RE it causes children and their families to not return.
- The church members present at the meeting pledged \$3,445 towards the new RE providers (because the current RE budget was not sufficient).

Respectfully submitted by Beth Schewe